

PCT

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

(PCT Article 18 and Rules 43 and 44)

Applicant's or agent's file reference 601	FOR FURTHER ACTION		see Form PCT/ISA/220 as well as, where applicable, item 5 below.
International application No. PCT/GB2005/000347	International filing date (day/month/year) 02/02/2005	(Earliest) Priority Date (day/month/year) 07/02/2004	
Applicant SANDPIPER ASSOCIATES			

This International Search Report has been prepared by this International Searching Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 18. A copy is being transmitted to the International Bureau.

This International Search Report consists of a total of 4 sheets.

It is also accompanied by a copy of each prior art document cited in this report.

1. Basis of the report

- a. With regard to the language, the international search was carried out on the basis of the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

The international search was carried out on the basis of a translation of the international application furnished to this Authority (Rule 23.1(b)).

- b. With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application, see Box No. I.

2. Certain claims were found unsearchable (See Box II).

3. Unity of Invention is lacking (see Box III).

4. With regard to the title,

the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.

the text has been established by this Authority to read as follows:

5. With regard to the abstract,

the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.

the text has been established, according to Rule 38.2(b), by this Authority as it appears in Box No. IV. The applicant may, within one month from the date of mailing of this international search report, submit comments to this Authority.

6. With regard to the drawings,

- a. the figure of the drawings to be published with the abstract is Figure No. 7

as suggested by the applicant.

as selected by this Authority, because the applicant failed to suggest a figure.

as selected by this Authority, because this figure better characterizes the invention.

- b. none of the figures is to be published with the abstract.

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC 7 E06C7/42

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 E06C

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	<p>US 5 915 498 A (FIGLIUZZI ET AL) 29 June 1999 (1999-06-29)</p> <p>column 3, line 28 – column 4, line 4; figure 1</p> <p>-----</p> <p>US 1 496 201 A (BAXTER CHARLES E) 3 June 1924 (1924-06-03)</p> <p>page 1, line 93 – page 2, line 54; figures 1,2,4,7,8</p> <p>-----</p> <p style="text-align: center;">-/-</p>	<p>1-5,8, 11-13, 28-30</p>
X		<p>1-3,5,8, 9,13,14, 17-19, 24,26, 28-30</p>

Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents :

- *A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- *E* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
- *L* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- *O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- *P* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

- *T* later document published after the International filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
- *X* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
- *Y* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.
- *&* document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

24 May 2005

Date of mailing of the International search report

01/06/2005

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C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	EP 0 372 897 A (A.C. INNOVATIONS, INC) 13 June 1990 (1990-06-13) column 4, line 25 – column 6, line 21; figures -----	1-3,5, 8-10,13, 17,20, 25-27, 29,30

Information on patent family members

PCT/GB2005/000347

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date		Patent family member(s)		Publication date
US 5915498	A	29-06-1999	US	5791437 A		11-08-1998
US 1496201	A	03-06-1924	NONE			
EP 0372897	A	13-06-1990	US	4899849 A		13-02-1990
			AR	244847 A1		30-11-1993
			AU	4590989 A		07-06-1990
			BR	8906155 A		31-07-1990
			CA	2004466 A1		05-06-1990
			EP	0372897 A1		13-06-1990